To W. L. Garrison.

Worcester. Aug 27. 1859

Dear Sir

5.4 Mr. Howland & I agreed quite well about your note to Mr. May in respect to the superiority of Syracuse to Cleveland. I regret your absence of opinion about it, but the following considerations entirely convince my mind, of the impropriety of a chance.

1. It is too late, as Mr. Robinson has been already authorized by me to Engage a hall in Cleveland.

2. "Cleveland" & "the West" have been freely spoken of as the locality by the Standard & other papers.

3. The Ohio friends are stronger & stronger for Cleveland, as time advances; especially Robinson & Brooke.

4. Bradburn, who at first discarded as fr. Cleveland, now ~~do strongly~~ advises it; & Mr. Tilden, N.C. has written a letter which I consider rather favorable than otherwise, as to that locality.

5. Those who have objected to Cleveland, have only suggested points further West, not East, especially Chicago.

6. Agitation has commenced, with a view to securing attendance from the Western Reserve, & perhaps a reduction of RR. fares.

7. Of the signatures now received (some 700) a clear majority are from Ohio: thus showing a good degree of preparation.

8. The recent Revelations in Ohio, under Republican administration, afford an admirable text: while the proximity of the State to Slave States makes it a peculiarly

suitable locality for a convention of national interest.

9. ~~The~~ Burritt's convention will be an excellent preparation for ours.

10. After talking about Cleveland, a retreat to Syracuse, will be inevitably regarded, & with some justice, as a confession of weakness.

11. The Convention will attract for itself national attention, on the comparatively new ground of Cleveland, than on the hackneyed ground of Syracuse.

12. Even as to the local sympathy, I think you overrate the superiority of Syracuse. As consulting Gen. Clay about it, some months since, he wrote me a most discouraging reply than I have ever had fr. Cleveland — thinking that the people wd. take no interest in such a Convention

I understood that Mr. Howland & myself were authorized to decide as to place & time, & was only waiting to hear definitely from Howland Robinson that he had engaged a Hall. I at first favored Syracuse, but am more & more convinced that Cleveland is better. If, however, you still doubt, & think it worth while to call a meeting of our Committee, please inform me without delay, & I will appoint one. We must have one in a week or so at any rate, & prepare the list of names for publication.

Cordially yours

T. W. Higginson

If this reaches you in time, & you are able, when on the Cape, to see Stephen Horner of E. Dennis or Abraham Baker of S. Yarmouth, I shld. be glad to have you judge if they are fit men to take the two block boys for whom I advertised in the Liberator. Eben Howes of E. Dennis wrote to me of them